

bundle strand coming out of the spinning machine. The cylinder designed as a cutting apparatus possesses blades extending in a radial direction by means of which the separation of the fiber strand is performed in the region between the two cylinders in portions of a desired length. The partial bundles cut in this way are removed from the blades or from the cylinder supporting the blades by means of discharge elements disposed between two blades and can be caught in a suitable collection device. The discharge elements can be moved in the radial direction of the cylinder relative to the blades and cause the blades to protrude radially in the cutting position in the region between the two cylinders and effect the desired cut of the fiber bundle strand. In regions at a distance to the cutting position, the blades are accepted in each case between two discharge elements. Disadvantages of such an apparatus are that it has a relatively complex design and that the change in the length of the partial bundles requires the cylinder supporting the blades to be changed.--

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 1 and 5, without prejudice, as follows:

1. (Three Times Amended) A method for manufacturing a fiber bundle having a length from a required number of unbound partial bundles having the same lengths, the method comprising:

- (a) transporting a fiber bundle strand using at least one feed element;
- (b) cutting the fiber bundle strand into unbound partial bundles, the unbound partial bundles having said length;
- (c) releasing the unbound partial bundles from the at least one feed element;
- (d) gripping the unbound partial bundles using at least one gripping element;